

Today's Topics:

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Trend towards requiring SASEs for domestic QSLs?
Tuning dipoles and antennas.

Date: 4 Nov 89 01:40:37 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: airport security

Since the "classic curly wire" seems to be the thing to catch the eye of the security folks, perhaps this is how I will be able to test just how well they can see through those lead lined film shields. One would be stupid to put something that even looked like a gun in there just to test them, but putting a coil corded microphone in there along with a few rolls of film might be the real test. If they consistently let it pass, and catch the coiled cord outside of the bag, then I will assume it is not the case that they can see inside the bag. I'd hope they'd recognize that the bag is blocking their view and ask to open it for a visual inspection (to make sure I'm not trying to slip in a gun by that method).

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--

<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Date: 3 Nov 89 19:32:46 GMT

From: soleil!gopstein@rutgers.edu (Rich Gopstein)

Subject: How to use the incoming QSL bureau?

Ok, I admit, I'm one of those people who doesn't have an envelope at the QSL bureau. How does the bureau work? I occasionally work DX on the HF bands, and would like to use incoming and outgoing QSL bureaus. I am an ARRL member, so that's not an issue.

Rich, KD2CQ

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Rich Gopstein

..!rutgers!soleil!gopstein

Date: Fri, 3 Nov 89 18:05:07 PST
From: jaf@cana.INFERENCE.COM (Jose Fernandez)
Subject: Please add me to the INFO-HAMS mailing list

Thanks, in advance, for your assistance.

Jose A. Fernandez
Inference Corporation

Date: 3 Nov 89 17:41:41 GMT
From: cs.utexas.edu!ut-emx!oo7@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Your Tax Dollars At Work)
Subject: QSLs and SASEs

tad@ssc.UUCP (Tad Cook KT7H) says:

I know several active hams who do not QSL. One is K7SS. (The exception is his recent Guemes Island operation). When he is working them at the rate of 180 per hour in a contest, his rate and score would go down considerably if he had to explain to each one that he does not like to QSL.

When I decided to be patriotic and get a WAS, I reckon I got a 95% return rate on cards by sending them with an SASE and enclosing a note mentioning that I was asking for the card for the WAS. It would never have occurred to me not to send an SASE. But K7SS (mentioned above) was one of the many who did reply - in fact, he sent me cards for two of the 50 states, as he operated two contests from different places. So he is a Good Guy in my books!

However, what bugs me is *not* having to send SASEs, but the people who do not reply when you do send them an SASE. Not to get libellous here, but I need MD on 160, and W3LPL wouldn't reply to a card. KQ2M never replied to 3 requests for cards for his HD5X operation, and I still need that on 80m. I realize these are Big Contesting Types, but the least they could do is make up a simple note saying "sorry, I do not reply to QSLs", stick it in the SASE and send it back. Surely they have to open their mail to find out whether it contains a QSL card? What do these guys do with the SASEs? I have visions of them sitting in the near-dark (too mean to turn the light fully on), gleefully peeling the stamps off the SASEs, chuckling as they throw the QSL card on the meagre fire, then pulling out their sack full of unused 25c stamps and counting them again. Perhaps instead they sell

the SASEs for 24.9c each to the neighbors.

I think the policy is pretty straightforward. If you really want the guy's card, send him an SASE. If you don't care much whether or not you get a card back, send it postcard rate for 15c and then don't complain if you don't get one back. But if you get my card and an SASE and ignore it, you are a Mean Guy. My only revenge on such people is not to work them when I hear them in later contests - I suppose I secretly hope that one of them will be pushed into 11th place by one point (the one I didn't give them in the contest), and not get listed in the little QST Top Ten box. Hee hee, drool drool....

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,
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Date: 3 Nov 89 18:37:59 GMT
From: fluke!strong@beaver.cs.washington.edu (Norm Strong)
Subject: SHORT WAVES

In article <5916@merlin.usc.edu> carasso@nunki.usc.edu () writes:
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}CAN ANYONE RECOMMEND A GOOD SHORT WAVE RADIO FOR UNDER \$200???
{
}HOW CAN I FIND OUT THE TIMES OF BROADCAST AND FREQUENCY, FOR ISRAELI RADIO?

I, too, need this information. Is this the correct group? In my case, I need a simple receiver that will tune in the BBC and Norweigan SW broadcasts. It would be nice if it operated from 220v/50Hz power, as well as US power. Really important that it have preset tuning positions, since it will only be used for a finite number of stations.

This receiver will be used in both Norway and the Seattle, WA area.
Thanks loads, in advance.

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Norm (strong@tc.fluke.com)

Date: 3 Nov 89 19:32:00 GMT

From: ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@iuvox.cs.indiana.edu
Subject: Trend towards requiring SASEs for d

Why can't we setup a domestic QSL bureau?

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Date: 3 Nov 89 03:22:34 GMT
From: mailrus!cs.utexas.edu!execu!sequoia!attdso!ssc!tad@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu
(Tad Cook)
Subject: Trend towards requiring SASEs for domestic QSLs?

N4NMR talks about the cards he throws away at the W4 bureau that are for hams that don't want to receive cards. He asks why they don't tell the DX hams during the QSOs that they do not QSL.

During a contest this is not easy. I know several active hams who do not QSL. One is K7SS. (The exception is his recent Guemes Island operation). When he is working them at the rate of 180 per hour in a contest, his rate and score would go down considerably if he had to explain to each one that he does not like to QSL.

I know one thing that has cooled is interest in QSL cards is that here in the Pacific NW, we seem to have a pipeline to JA. After a contest, it seems that EVERY JA wants your card for EVERY QSO, no matter how many times he has worked you before.

I try to QSL 100% to those who QSL me, and I keep my cards sorted. It is incredible to me how many cards I have for some JA hams....some will send 5 or 6 cards.

One ham I know who is an active contester (N7TT) sends QSL cards for ALL of his DX contest contacts. At the end of a contest, he hires a neighbor kid to make out QSL cards for all the contacts, and sends them via the outgoing bureau. I know some hams have it all computerized and just print labels at the end of the contest.

When I did my operation on Guemes Island, I worked 3,000 stations. I answered everyone who sent me an SASE. But I was amazed at how many QSLs I received with no SASE. I guess these guys who heard us working them at the rate of 2 a minute thought we were going to spend another few hundred dollars to address envelopes and pay postage to QSL everyone....or maybe they just weren't thinking. They are still in the drawer, and I may answer them via the QSL bureau...but I wonder how many of those guys actually keep envelopes at the bureau?

73,

Tad Cook
tad@ssc.UUCP
KT7H @ N7HFZ

Date: Fri, 03 Nov 89 14:35:15 GMT
From: "Pete Lucas, NCS-TLC 0793-411613" <PJML@IBMA.NERC-WALLINGFORD.AC.UK
Subject: Tuning dipoles and antennas.

Tuning/resonating dipoles - well i never try resonating for lowest SWR. Remember, a low SWR doesnt mean anything as far as radiation efficiency or resonance are concerned (if you like, put a dummy load on the end of the coax - nice low SWR but it wont radiate very well :-)

The thing to do is trim for RESONANCE - you measure this with your trusty dip oscillator. Get the dipole resonant at the frequency you want, then squirt some real RF up it. Dont worry about SWR. You'll put out a far better signal with a resonant antenna and 2:1 SWR than you will with a non-resonant antenna and a 1:1 SWR, all other things being equal. After all, the power 'reflected' by a non-perfect antenna match should be 're-reflected' back to the antenna by the PA tank circuit. If you have a solid-state PA or linear, then buy yourself an antenna matcher to keep it happy.

Also, remember that the workable bandwidth of a dipole is related to the ratio of length to cross-section. Trying to get a good match across the whole of 3.5 to 4 MHz with a 'thin wire' dipole is just not possible.

Making each 'half' out of several wires spaced a few inches apart will help here.

..._._ de Pete 'I dont even *HAVE* an SWR meter' Lucas G6WBJ

Date: Fri, 3 Nov 89 13:06:20 EST
From: es!Jay_Appell_office@harvard.harvard.edu

id 1B9C06049ED3; Fri, 3 Nov 89 11:49:32 EST
Date: Fri, 3 Nov 89 11:49:32 EST
From: Jay_Appell_office
Subject:
Options: Certified

Message-Id: <8911031649.1B9C06049ED3@es.office>
To: anvil!harvard!simtel20.arpa!INFO-HAMS

I am looking for the Kenwood 711 mod for extended receive. Perhaps there are built-in test diagnostics like the 440. Can anyone help me out on this ?

Thanks! uucp: harvard!anvil!es!Jay_Appell_office

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #839
